

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AGR-20 AID-20 IGA-02 EB-11

OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 INT-08 FRB-02 RSR-01 /197 W

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R 031430Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4111

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS DAKAR 3358

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID SG MR ML

SUBJ: PRESS ACCOUNT OF OMVS MEETING IN BAMAKO

REF: NONE

JOINT STATE/AID MESSAGE

1. WITHOUT MEANING HEREIN TO COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF CURRENT OMVS MINISTERS MEETING AT BAMAKO, BELIEVE STATE/AID WILL BE INTERESTED IN LE SOLEIL ACCOUNT OF OMVS SEC GEN OULJ AMAR REMARKS CONCERNING HIS RECENT WASHINGTON VISIT AND CONVERSATIONS HELD THERE.

2. ACCORDING TO SOLEIL, OULD AMAR REPORTED THAT THE MISSION HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH UNDP, IBRD, THE US, CANADA, FRANCE AND FED, EXPLAINING THE SENEGAL RIVER PLANS AND NEED FOR FINANCING. UNDP AGREED TO SUPPORT OMVS DURING PHASE OF SEEKING FINANCING AND WILL PROLONG THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECT FOR THREE MORE YEARS.

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3. USAID HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO FINANCE HALF OF THIS PROJECT EXTENSION. UNDP WILL FURNISH FOUR EXPERTS STARTING JAN 1974.

4. QTE AS FOR THE USA, OULD AMAR STRESSED THAT THE AMERICAN OFFICIALS ALL AFFIRMED THEIR INTEREST IN THE OMVS PROGRAM, BUT SOME PLACED THE ACCENT ON THE NEED FOR CONCERTED ACTION AT THE LEVEL OF THE ENTIRE SAHEL ZONE (MAURITANIA, SENEGAL, MALI, UPPER VOLTA, NIGER AND CHAD), IN FAVOR OF WHICH THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE WILLING TO FURNISH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. FOR OTHERS, SUCH AS MR NEWSOM, ASST SEC OF STATE FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS, THE US COULD ONLY PARTICIPATE IN THE FINANCING OF PROJECTS TOGETHER WITH THE IBRD. THIS ATTITUDE, TO SAY THE LEAST EQUIVOCAL, DENOTES A CERTAIN CONFUSION ON THE PART OF THE AMERICANS IN SPITE OF THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT NIXON WHICH SEEMS FAVORABLE TO THE PROGRAM OF THE OMVS. UNQTE.

5. THE IBRD CONTINUE TO FOLLOW FINANCING PLANS AND ATTITUDE OF OTHER DONORS. IT WOULD LIKE THE STUDIES ON THE COST BENEFITS OF THE DAMS AND OF HYDRO-AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS. THE IBRD ALSO WISHES THE OMVS TO FURNISH AN ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR THE DIFFERENT PROJECTS. FOR NOW, SAID OULD AMAR, THE IBRD IS IN A WAITING POSITION WHICH CAN BE MODIFIED ACCORDING TO DECISIONS TAKEN BY OTHER FINANCING SOURCES, ESPECIALLY THE US. THAT IS WHY THE AGREEMENT OF THE US CARRIED SUCH GREAT IMPORTANCE.

6. CANADA IS VERY SYMPATHETIC, WILL SEND A GROUP OF EXPERTS TO LOOK INTO THE PROGRAM, AND WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE DONORS MEETING. MEETINGS WITH DENIAU OF FRANCE WERE ALSO POSITIVE. THE DELEGATION WAS ASSURED THAT FRANCE WOULD MAKE KNOWN AT BEGINNING OF NEXT YEAR WHAT IT CAN FINANCE AND FOR HOW MUCH. KED GAVE ASSURANCES IT WOULD PARTICIPATE, SEPCIFYING HOWEVER THAT NO PRECISE FIGURE CAN BE GIVEN BEFORE ADOPTION OF NEXT BUDGET IN FEBRUARY 1975.

7. IN CONCLUSION OULD AMAR AFFIRMED THAT THE DIFFERENT UNCLASSIFIED

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DONORS ALWAYS RAISED THE PROBLEM OF PRIORITIES AND OF SEQUENCE OF EXECUTION OF DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE SENEGAL RIVER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. THIS ATTITUDE WAS THE SUBJECT OF LONG DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE THREE NATIONAL DELEGATIONS.
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